NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

DECEMBER 1946 PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 5 • VOL. 14, NO. 4

Dear Local Presidents:

Mrs. L. W. Hughes

WE have just concluded our fall Board meeting in New Orleans. All the state presidents were there except those presidents from Virginia, West Virginia, and Hawaii congresses, and these congresses were represented by other members of their executive committees. Our national chairman of High School Service, Mrs. Leonard G. Twitchell, and one of our vice-presidents, Mrs. J. S. Stewart, were also unable to attend on account of illness.

Four-Point Program

Before the Board meeting, members of special committees met to discuss the projects that had been assigned to them. One of these was the special committee on our Four-Point Program. Their findings will be published in the January issue of the *National Congress Bulletin*. Our Four-Point Program places major emphasis on our parent-teacher activities in the fields of SCHOOL EDUCATION, HEALTH, WORLD UNDERSTANDING, PARENT AND FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION.

Forum on the Crisis in Education

One of the highlights of the New Orleans meeting was a forum that covered in detail the present crisis in education. To plan a militant program of action, we invited to New Orleans representatives from three of America's largest educational groups: the National Education Association, the American Council on Education, and the U.S. Office of Education. The January issue of *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine* will carry a full account of one of the presentations; the others will appear in later issues. By the way, I hope all of you read the *National Parent-Teacher* each month. No local president can function at the highest level of effectiveness without the official magazine of our organization.

The Teacher Shortage

Your Board members discussed many questions that need the attention of all of us. The one that came to the fore most frequently was "What can be done about the teacher shortage?" This, as we have long known, is a serious problem and one that cannot be solved without united, organized action. Since we are a group primarily interested in the schools—in fact we are the only lay organization in the country that meets regularly in the schools—I believe we must give this particular problem Number 1 priority in all our programs and projects.

Teachers are still leaving the profession. In some of our cities, thousands of them are now on strike. Too many of those who have remained on their jobs are overworked and underpaid. Still others are teaching without having acquired the proper training.

We all know these facts if we read our daily papers and current magazines. The *National Parent-Teacher* has printed dozens of articles on the subject for the past several years. There's nothing new in any of these statements, and it is time we stopped being surprised when we hear them. Instead, let us make a firm New Year's resolution to bring to an end the crisis in American education.

Let us be honest as we face the questions involved. I, for one, do not blame present-day young people for not wanting to be teachers. The teaching profession has been made to sound so unattractive and teachers are so underpaid and so socially restricted that it is a wonder to me we have as many recruits as we do. Up and coming, intelligent men and women are *not* going to seek careers in a profession that does not assure them an opportunity for personal growth, economic security, and reasonable advancement.

The only way we can turn the tide and attract well-qualified young people to the teaching profession—and retain the best of those who are teaching now—is to see that teaching offers them as much as, or more than, careers in some other fields do. Nobody with initiative is going to spend time and money preparing himself for a job which from coast to coast has been publicized as the poorest paid in the land. Future issues of this *Bulletin* will offer suggestions for embarking on a vigorous *parent-teacher plan of action* to meet this problem.

For Every Child—The Finest Teaching

It is to our everlasting credit that our state congresses have already been doing a trojan job in dealing with the educational crisis. At our Board meeting state president after state president rose to tell how the P.T.A.'s in their respective states are supporting legislative measures concerned with solving the teacher shortage. *Were it not for the action already taken by our groups, the situation would be far worse than it is.* And we are planning to do more. In fact, we will not rest until every child in every public school in America is assured of the finest teaching that America can provide.

☆ ☆ ☆

And now as we prepare to celebrate Christmas and all it means to us, may I offer each of you my wishes for a most happy and satisfying holiday season.

Sincerely yours,

Mabel W. Hughes

President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS *Are Doing*

Open House in Thomasville

If there are parents in your community who have not as yet been persuaded to come to monthly P.T.A. meetings, why not try an open house? Maybe if they come to visit their own child's classroom on that particular evening, they'll catch the spirit of the parent-teacher movement then and there.

The Main Street P.T.A. in Thomasville, North Carolina, recently drew the largest attendance in its history at such an event. Although the association has 503 paid members, 650 parents and teachers packed the assembly hall at this meeting. After the regular session adjourned, every room in school held open house, and the home economics department served refreshments to the record number present.

Toward Responsible Parenthood

The letters E. R. P. are extremely significant to every parent-teacher member in Mississippi, for to them these symbols mean "Education for Responsible Parenthood"—a project that has shown unprecedented growth during the past two years. The "E.R.P. Project" has been carried on through the cooperation of the Mississippi Congress, the State Department of Education, the State Health Department, and the Y.W.C.A.

By means of leadership institutes in various parts of the state, parents and teachers were trained to lead parent education study groups. Often entire city school faculties attended courses on sex education for children and youth. Then the names of these qualified leaders were well publicized so that local associations might know where to procure speakers and leaders for their study groups.

Because the program so completely won the confidence and respect of state officials and the general public, the governor invited the leaders of many groups to come together for a conference. The result was the organizing of the Mississippi Social Hygiene Association—an outcome for which the P.T.A.'s of the state had worked tirelessly. A full-time executive director has now been employed to continue the service of "educating parents for responsible parenthood."

Surprise in North Dakota

Although prominent Americans have been present at many state conventions, their appearance is not often so completely unheralded as the visit made by certain renowned persons at the North Dakota state convention. Delegates assembled in the banquet room literally gasped in surprise when Fiorello H. LaGuardia, director of UNRRA; Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture; and Wallace Kirkland, a photographer on the staff of *Life* Magazine, entered and spoke to the guests.

Touring the Midwest in a plea for wheat for Europe, these men deemed it worth their while to spend time explaining the world situation that occasioned their tour. All those present felt that the visit was a flattering recognition of the esteem in which the parent-teacher movement is held throughout the nation.

This *Is* Democracy!

The Bailey-Gatzert P.T.A. in Seattle, Washington, has an outstanding slate of officers this year, for it is one truly representative of four racial groups in the community—Chinese, Japanese, Negro, and White. Only one nationality of sizable importance, Filipino, is not represented among the officers, but you may be sure that some of the committee chairmen will be drawn from this group.

Shown here from left to right are Mrs. Minnie Beach, second vice-president; Mrs. Ruth Chimm, treasurer; Mrs. Pearlie Jones, first vice-president; Mrs. Matsu Homma, secretary; and Mrs. Robert Duwe, president. Instances like this serve to prove that the P.T.A.'s of America are surely the most democratic bodies in all the land!

Oregon in Action!

The Oregon Congress last month saw its efforts on behalf of one particular school bill end in success, and what a gratifying triumph it was!

Last April the state branch voted unanimously to act as one of the sponsors of an initiative measure to create a state Basic School Support Fund. Other sponsors of the bill were the Oregon State Association of School Boards and the Oregon State Teachers' Association.

The following weeks were busy ones indeed. The bill could not be put on the ballot in November unless a signed petition, showing how large a number of voters favored it, could be filed with the secretary of state. So the petition was drawn up, circulated, and publicized in every possible way. The result was 39,960 signatures—enough to assure the bill a place on the ballot.

Under the supervision of the legislation chairman, Mrs. Frederic W. Young, a special office was opened as headquarters for all activities concerned with this bit of legislation. Funds were raised, literature prepared, posters distributed, and support from many other groups won. And when the votes were tallied after the November election the Basic School Support Fund measure had passed—by a narrow margin, but *passed*, nevertheless! In fact, because the edge of victory was so very slight, the Oregon Congress is all the more sure that parent-teacher efforts really tipped the scales in favor of the school children of the state.

Children's Programs in Minnesota Change for the Better

Many parents and teachers have long deplored the appalling mixture of murder, torture, and gangster technique that blares from our radios into the ears of avid young listeners during the late afternoon and early evening hours. But too often we feel helpless to remedy the situation.

However, if we really turned our attention to the problem, we might soon rest easy in the knowledge that a twist of the dial would no longer release a flood of dramatized crime for the consumption of innocent youngsters.

The Eugene Field P.T.A. of Minneapolis, the Minnesota Radio Council, and the leading Minnesota radio stations have already begun to prove that children's programs *can* be lifted from the "box-top" variety to something truly educational.

The reform began last summer, when during a polio epidemic the children of the Twin Cities were barred from movies and public gatherings. Even the opening of school was delayed two weeks, and thereupon the University of Minnesota station, KUOM, took the lead in providing wholesome entertainment. Other stations soon took up the idea and devoted several hours each day to stories, plays, and other programs suited to young radio fans. Travel and adventure were plentiful, but gangsters and ghosts were conspicuously absent, to the satisfaction of all thoughtful adults.

Indeed, parents and teachers were so gratified that last month representatives of radio, education, the movies, and the P.T.A.'s of Minneapolis met to see how these commendable reforms might be made really permanent. Here is an example of practical action toward a desired objective. And to those responsible we say "Bravo!"

Training for Family Life

"Could Oak Park profit from training in family living?" This is the question that members of the program committee in the Hawthorne P.T.A., Oak Park, Illinois, asked themselves when they began to think about a theme for the year. The committee, headed by Mr. and Mrs. John Drake, co-chairmen, decided that the answer was yes and proceeded to plan a program that would appeal to every father and mother in the community.

> One important phase of family life will be discussed at each meeting. The November topic was "The Youth Problem in Oak Park and What Family Guidance Might Do for It." The winter's topics will include the problem of divorce, the benefits of good-citizen activities in local schools, and the value of a community institute for parental guidance. Noted speakers from other cities are to be invited to talk on certain of the subjects, and in April a panel of Oak Park ministers will discuss "The Church's Viewpoint on Family Guidance."

Here is a program that is admirably geared to community needs and one that promises to be of real assistance to all Hawthorne members.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION . . . FOR ALL P.T.A. MEMBERS

5,000,000 MEMBERS BY APRIL 1947

● "It is all very well to tell me of a young man who has distinguished himself by a brilliant first speech. He may go on, or he may be satisfied with his first triumph; but show me a young man who has not succeeded at first, and nevertheless has gone on, and I will back that young man to do better than most of those who have succeeded at the first trial." This statement by C. J. Fox, renowned British statesman, may well apply to parent-teacher associations as well as youthful orators.

In this connection we are thinking of three types of associations:

1. Those that have not yet reached their goals but are still working.
2. Those that have reached their goals and have *stopped* working.
3. Those that have reached their goals *and are still working!*

May we always have the perseverance to keep at a job until it is really finished! And even when it looks as if our share has been achieved, perhaps we should go on to new accomplishments that will make up for someone else's shortcomings.

We can reach our goal of five million members if each local association keeps on working, regardless of the results of "the first trial." Let us continue to be enthusiastic and active until the year's records are closed in April 1947!

> The bulletins of the various state congresses show that excellent support has been given to the membership enrollment and that all state chairmen are cooperating in the building of a larger membership.

But numbers alone are not enough. We must also have a *working* membership, one in which each individual finds his place and fulfills certain duties. In what we believe to be the world's most important organization working for children, we covet for every member a deep sense of *belonging*—a conviction that goes far beyond the mere payment of dues or a casual attendance at monthly meetings.

How, then, are we to achieve this satisfying sense of unified service? In this way: the interest of each adult who holds a membership card must be enlisted in a vital project or activity. Idleness is never conducive to growth, in a P.T.A. or any other group. All committees should therefore be alert not only to the possibilities of new subject material but also to the untapped reservoir of human resource—our new members!

> Today we speak often of the restlessness of youth, but adults themselves sometimes exhibit that same quality in varying degrees. Busy people are happy people, and an active parent-teacher program will give to many a consciousness of service that brings in turn a new stability and purpose in life.

Let us remember, too, that he who serves another also serves himself, that if an effort be truly noble, it is in itself an ample reward. How well we know that in this world it is not what we *take* but what we *give* that is enriching; yet how often we forget that basic ethic, which should guide our every action.

The National Congress is depending upon each of its branches to help establish our Golden Jubilee record in membership. Not only must we see that associations grow in numbers; we must also make sure that all Congress units remain in membership with the national organization. While we welcome new units, we must not neglect the ones we already have. Therefore we ask each state to check carefully to see that every unit stays in membership.

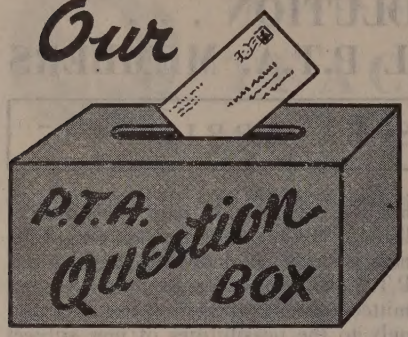
> *We dare not rest expectantly with our arms serenely folded if we wish to arrive at our objective. Success will come only if we put our shoulder to the wheel! And in the intellectual and physical exertion of parent-teacher service no conscientious member will ever rust in uselessness.*

The year of 1946 is almost over; the threshold of 1947 is before us. And in that New Year dawning we have but a few short months to reach our goal. Resolve now to pledge your personal assistance in making our cherished dream a reality—five million members in our fiftieth anniversary year!

Plan to listen to our international radio broadcast on Founders Day, February 17, 1947, over the NBC stations. See January issue of the *Bulletin* for further details.

Clara M. Beckham

National Chairman
Committee on Membership



Q. Recently we sent to the National Office a *rush* request for extra membership cards, which did not reach us until two weeks later. Is there any way we can be assured of speedier delivery?

A. Yes. Send your request directly to your state congress office. Membership cards are never distributed to local associations by the National Office; all requests for them are relayed promptly to the state congress office. In your case, if you add the proper time allowance for the letter to reach us, for its forwarding to the state office, and for the package to be mailed to you, you will no doubt agree that two weeks *was* a speedy delivery!

Q. We are now in the process of organizing a parent-teacher association. Will you please send us a copy of the bylaws that the National Congress requests all P.T.A.'s to use?

A. The National Congress does not arbitrarily set up bylaws and standing rules for the use of local Congress units. However, *suggested* bylaws for various types of associations can be found in the booklet, *How To Organize Parent-Teacher Associations,* which is obtainable free from your state office. This publication explains how and why bylaws are prepared and adopted.

Q. When did the National Congress move to Chicago?

A. In June 1939.

Q. How many of the past presidents of the National Congress are still living?

A. Seven. Mrs. A. H. Reeve, Mrs. S. M. N. Marrs, Mrs. Hugh Bradford, Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, Mrs. William Kletzer, and Mrs. William A. Hastings.

Q. Where can we get P.T.A. pins?

A. Write to your state office for information concerning all P.T.A. insignia with the exception of the national life life membership pin, which may be secured from the National Office.

Q. We are planning to start a P.T.A. bookshelf in our school library. Would you please send us a list of required material?

A. There is no "required material," but the National Congress does have a list of suggested publications that may be included in the bookshelf.

The Parent-Teacher Manual
*A year's file of the *National Parent-Teacher*
*A year's file of the *National Congress Bulletin*
*A year's file of the state bulletin
**Community Life in a Democracy*
**The Parent-Teacher Organization: Its Origins and Development*
Guiding Principles for Parent-Teacher Associations
Parent-Teacher Publicity Handbook
Program Planning
The Rural P.T.A.
Founders Day
A Safety Manual
Study Group Techniques
Summer Round-Up of the Children
The Preschool Age—A Period of Promise
**Children Who Are Exceptional*
**How To Stay Alive as Long as You Live*
The High School Parent-Teacher Association
Looking Toward Tomorrow's Education
You Are Needed in the P.T.A.
What Parent-Teacher Membership Means to Every Parent, Every Teacher

The majority of the publications aforementioned were supplied free in quantities sufficient to provide at least one copy for each P.T.A. Those starred are publications for which a nominal sum is charged. The state congresses, too, have publications that may be added to this list. We suggest that you write to your state office or state publications chairman for further information and assistance in planning your bookshelf of P.T.A. materials.

Q. Our public library does not have a book on the history of the parent-teacher organization, and we would like to see that such a volume is made available to the adults in our community. Our program chairman would also like to use it in preparing for our Founders Day observance in February.

A. A complete history of the National Congress has never been printed. However, a history now in preparation will be available in June 1947 as part of our Golden Jubilee observance. Meanwhile, you will find in *The Parent-Teacher Organization: Its Origins and Development* a section entitled "Projects and Purposes of the Parent-Teacher Associations" (pages 137–180), which presents a historical résumé of the growth of the organization.

Your program chairman will find a condensed chronology of important events in "Milestones Along the Way," a section of the 1947 Founders Day pamphlet. Copies of this booklet may be obtained from your state office.

Q. Who was the first president of the National Congress?

A. Mrs. Theodore (Alice McLellan) Birney. Mrs. Birney served from 1897 to 1902.

Q. Who was the first editor of National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine?

A. Mrs. Frederic Schoff. Mrs. Schoff was the second president of the National Congress. The first editorial board of the magazine was composed of Mrs. Frederic Schoff, Mrs. J. P. Mumford, Mrs. A. R. Ramsey, and Mrs. Herman H. Birney, a sister-in-law of the Founder, Alice McLellan Birney. The first issue of the *National Parent-Teacher,* issued in 1906 and known as *Child Welfare Magazine,* contained a message from the Founder.

NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER MAGAZINE
GOLDEN JUBILEE HONOR ROLL

Beginning in the January 1947 issue of the *National Congress Bulletin,* we shall publish each month a list of the state congresses that have made gains in circulation since April 1, 1946. You can help to put or keep your state on the magazine Honor Roll by recommending it to members who are not yet subscribers. Every subscription we add is a symbol of our organization's interest in children and its desire to be of help to their parents.

Will Your State be on the Golden Jubilee Honor Roll all through 1947?

The *Stark County Triangle,* a publication of Stark County Council in Ohio, relays a quotation of interest to all of us who work for juvenile protection: "A good child costs seven cents for recreation, while it costs seventy-five dollars to get the bad child out of trouble."

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

Volume 14 DECEMBER 1946 Number 4

Published monthly from September through May, bimonthly June and July, at 600 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago 5, Illinois, by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Subscription price: 20 cents a year. Entered as second class matter September 27, 1946, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Additional entry at Aurora, Illinois, December 21, 1939.

Highlights OF THE MONTH

In the December issue of
NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER
THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE

Youth and the Uncertain World

by Olive Ewing Clapper

• Written by the widow of the late newspaperman Raymond Clapper, this article urges parents to give their children standards they may cling to *now* in the changing conditions of our present world. In the confusion and uncertainty of a civilization convalescing from war, today's homes are our only bulwark of stability. "We can cure our sick civilization only from its heartthrob," says Mrs. Clapper, "which is the home."

Children Take to the Arts

by Natalie Cole

• Every child's an artist by nature, declares Mrs. Cole, who as a teacher of the arts is expert at eliciting tiny masterpieces of achievement. In her plea for the unstifling of artistic expression—in music or painting, in poetry or dancing—she cites many, many ways that parents can foster creativity in their children. She assures us guiding elders that in so doing we shall share anew the world of exciting wonders that only fresh, young eyes discover and enjoy.

Dealing with the Child's Emotional Disturbances

by Elaine F. Kinder, Ph.D., and E. R. Clardy, M.D.

• Is the neighborhood bully really a bully—or just a misunderstood youngster who needs affection? Is the cry-baby at school a perverse little minx, or does she need the expert guidance of psychiatry? Questions of this sort are expertly answered by the co-authors of this article. Their scientific dealings with the maladjustments of children have taught them that if parents were to learn more about the causes of emotional disorder they would be better able to prevent many inner conflicts and upheavals.

How To Think About Yourself *IV. You Are the Maker of a Culture*

by Bonaro W. Overstreet

• Seldom do we think of ourselves as culture-makers, comments Mrs. Overstreet, and too often when we *do* recognize the need for tackling social problems, we despair at the size of our task. Fortunately there is one starting point—the community—where "self-improvement and world-improvement meet and blend," our discerning author says. If you want to learn more about making such a start in your own community, be sure to read the tangible suggestions in this fourth article of the current series.

A Divided Atom Demands a United World

by Philip Morrison

• "When you see the walls of the primary school lying over the still-unburied bodies of the children, you realize that the war in which we have been engaged is an intolerable institution." With this gripping statement, Dr. Morrison, an authority on atomic energy, proceeds to tell us why we cannot ignore the implications of an atomic war. And the proposed solution—international control of atomic energy—is one every thoughtful citizen today must evaluate if we are to influence American policy "for the common good of all nations."

'Rithmetic Minus Hick'ry Stick

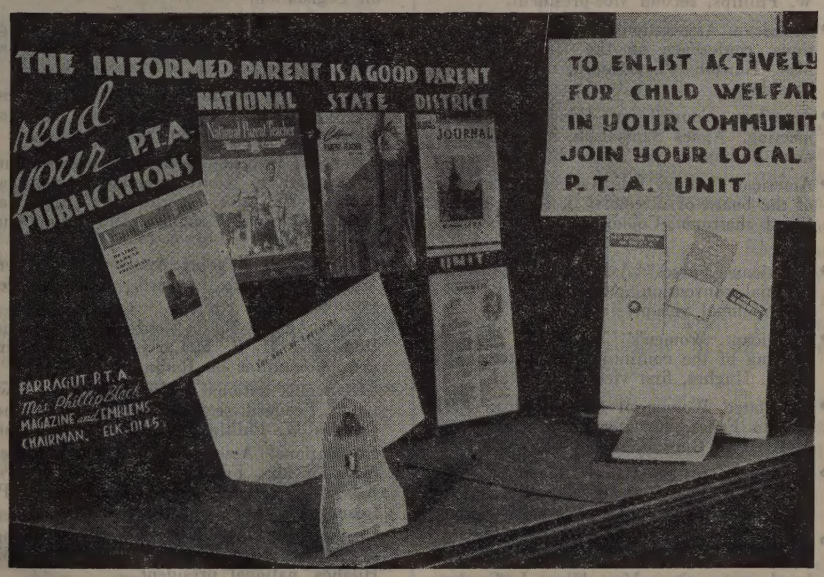
by Herbert F. Spitzer

• How early shall we teach a child to count? Is simple rote counting a help or hindrance when the youngster enters school? When Johnny brings his 'rithmetic home to work, how much help should he receive? What valuable number experiences can be provided in the home? What shall we do when the teacher's method of instruction varies from the one we were taught in school? Parents whose children are at one or another stage in the arithmetic learning process will want to know the answers to these queries. And in this article Dr. Spitzer covers each of them with the clarity and wisdom gained during his many years as an educator.

ANOTHER VIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

Sometimes in our zeal for large state membership totals, we forget that there is another important aspect of such figures—the relation between the number of parent-teacher members and the state population as a whole. In other words, what *proportion* of the people in each state belong to a National Congress P.T.A.?

Some research in this field has been carried on by Mrs. Deane Davis, editor of the *South Dakota Parent-Teacher*, and the statistics, based on the population figures (estimated as of July 1943), are interesting indeed. Utah leads all other congresses in the percentage of population holding parent-teacher membership, for 7 per cent of the people in that state belong to our National Congress P.T.A.'s. California is second with a percentage of 6.25, and the other states at the top of the listing are as follows: Colorado, 5.7; Florida, 4.4; Washington, 4.1; Kansas and Ohio, 4 each; Oregon, 3.9; Vermont, 3.8; North Carolina and Tennessee, 3.7 each; Arkansas and New Jersey, 3.5.



THIS attractive display of parent-teacher publications recently appeared in a window of a local branch of the San Francisco Public Library. Mrs. C. G. Bott, vice-president of the Farragut P.T.A. in San Francisco, writes that the exhibit, prepared by Mrs. Phillip Black, local magazine and emblems chairman, was designed to keep parent-teacher purposes before the public during the summer months and to stress membership before the opening of school.

In addition to the *National Parent-Teacher* and the *National Congress Bulletin*, the display included state, district, and local material as well.

When the exhibit was complete, members of the association donated a year's file of the *National Parent-Teacher* and the *California Parent-Teacher* to the library. In the near future it is hoped that annual subscriptions to these publications may be presented to the library as a gift from the local unit.

CONGRESS CONTACTS

For the period November 1945 to December 1946

As in previous years, the National Congress has sent representatives to the meetings and conferences of certain groups whose aims are allied to ours. The Congress contacts cited in these columns cover an entire year. In the following list the persons who officially represented the Congress at each meeting are designated according to the office each held at that particular time. It must be remembered, of course, that some members of the Board have since changed offices or have gone out of office. Others still hold the same office as last year.

- Alabama College, 50th anniversary celebration. Mrs. Joseph W. Eshelman, national chairman, Committee on Juvenile Protection.
- American Academy of Political and Social Science, annual meeting. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- American Association of School Administrators, meeting of the southern division of the Department of Superintendents. Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president.
- American Association for the United Nations, conference on the United Nations. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- American Council on Education, annual meeting. Agnes Samuelson, national chairman, Committee on School Education.
- American Country Life Association, meeting of the board of directors. I. D. Weeks, national chairman, Committee on Rural Service.
- American Nurses' Association, fourteenth biennial convention. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- American Women's Voluntary Services, meeting of the continuing committee. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, first vice-president.
- Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation, rural-urban conference. Mrs. R. B. Gordon, regional vice-president.
- Association for Childhood Education, annual meeting. Mrs. Carl R. Brister, national chairman, Committee on Preschool Service.
- Association of Women Directors of the National Association of Broadcasters, annual luncheon meeting. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- British Columbia Parent-Teacher Federation, annual convention. Mrs. William Kletzer, national chairman, Committee on Founders Day.
- Camp Fire Girls, national conference. Mrs. E. W. Emery, regional vice-president.
- Canadian Federation of Home and School, annual convention. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- Child Study Association of America, annual conference. Mrs. Carl R. Brister, national chairman, Committee on Preschool Service.
- Citizen Participation Panel, national conference on prevention and control of juvenile delinquency. Mrs. O. G. Hankins, state president.
- Citizens Federal Committee on Education, meeting. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- Civilian Control of Atomic Energy, luncheon meeting sponsored by Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, representing the national president.
- Community Chests and Councils, mid-east regional conference. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- Conference on Educational Rehabilitation in the Liberated Areas, called by the American Council on Education. Agnes Samuelson, national chairman, Committee on School Education.
- Conference of National Organizations with officials of the Office of Price Administration. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- Conference of Representatives of National Organizations on Disposal of Surplus Government Property to Education. Mrs. Stanley G. Cook, national chairman, Committee on Legislation.
- Consumer Advisory Committee meeting. Mrs. C. D. Lowe, representing the national president.
- Cooperating Committee on School Lunches, meeting. Mrs. Paul H. Leonard, national chairman, Committee on School Lunch.
- Extension Institute of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (during Home Demonstration Week). Mrs. George E. Calvert, national chairman, Committee on Home and Family Life.
- Fifth American Nobel Anniversary Dinner. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- Fourth Annual Radio Conference on Radio Problems. H. B. McCarty, national chairman, Committee on Radio.
- Girl Scouts national convention. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president, and Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president.
- International Assembly of Women, dinner to honor Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner and Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-presidents.
- International Assembly of Women, meeting of the steering committee. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- Music Educators Conference. Mrs. Curtis Stout, national chairman, Committee on Music.
- National Commission on Children in Wartime, meeting. Mrs. Jack M. Little, regional vice-president.
- National Commission on Children and Youth, meeting. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Commission, UNESCO, meeting. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Committee on Group Care of Children, general meeting. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- National Committee for Traffic Safety, annual meeting. Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, national chairman, Committee on Safety.
- National Committee for Traffic Safety, executive committee meeting. Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, national chairman, Committee on Safety.
- National Conference of Christians and Jews. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- National Conference of County Superintendents. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Conference on Federal Aid for Education. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Conference on Home Safety, National Safety Council. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers Annual Convention. Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president.
- National Education Association Fourth Midwest Conference on Rural Life and Education. I. D. Weeks, national chairman, Committee on Rural Service.
- National Education Association Representative Assembly. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Emergency Conference on Teacher Preparation and Supply. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president.
- National Highway Users Conference. Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, national chairman, Committee on Safety.
- National Housing Agency, citizen-government conference on the housing emergency. Mrs. O. G. Hankins, representing the national president.
- National Public Housing Conference. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- National Recreation Association, twenty-eighth annual congress. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, first vice-president.
- National Safety Council Conference on Safety Education in Schools and Colleges. Mrs. William A. Hastings, national president.
- National School Lunch Conference, called by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mrs. Paul H. Leonard, national chairman, Committee on School Lunch.
- New York Herald Tribune Forum. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- Panels on Juvenile Problems, called by Attorney General Tom C. Clark. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- President's Highway Safety Conference. Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president, and Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, national chairman, Committee on Safety.
- President's Highway Safety Conference, meeting of the Committee on Education and meeting of the Committee on Organized Public Support. Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, national chairman, Committee on Safety.
- Sixteenth Institute for Education by Radio. Mrs. James C. Parker, regional vice-president, and H. B. McCarty, national chairman, Committee on Radio.
- Theatrical Panel of the National Conference on the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency. Bruce E. Mahan, national chairman, Committee on Visual Education.
- UNRRA Fourth Council Session. Mrs. William A. Hastings, national president.
- Women's Joint Congressional Committee, dinner to honor Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, U.S. delegate to the General Assembly of the United Nations. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, first vice-president.

KENTUCKY GOING FORWARD

MRS. Jack M. Little, regional vice-president, recently spent some weeks in Kentucky visiting district conferences as a national representative. Her report of parent-teacher action in full swing includes the following highlights of work in that state:

1. A phenomenal gain in membership.
2. An outstanding legislation program carried on in cooperation with the Kentucky Education Association. This program includes not only strong educational measures on behalf of children but the planning of a new state constitution guaranteeing better education. (An interesting account, "Waking Up Kentucky," appears in the June issue of the *National Parent-Teacher.*)
3. Active committees engaged in approving bylaws.
4. Wide distribution of National Congress publications. Pay material has been sold at many of the district conferences.
5. Extensive use of the *National Parent-Teacher* study courses.
6. Organization of kindergartens as a result of the efforts of preschool sections.
7. Intensive rural service, particularly in the mountain areas.
8. Numerous projects in the fields of juvenile protection, health, and safety education.

In addition, school lunch projects ave been especially stressed, and many schools have qualified for Federal aid in the past few months. Of particular interest to us who have long worked toward the solution of the teacher shortage are the many district committees on teacher recruitment in Kentucky. Here, Mrs. Little believes, is a good example of a state congress that is "awake and interested in education and her most valuable asset—Kentucky's children."

TEXAS CONGRESS TRAVELING EXHIBIT

This exhibit, which was among those displayed at the national convention in Denver, not only attracts attention but is simple enough to be erected easily and quickly.

* * *

Founders Day chairmen may find an interesting idea in the 1946 Founders Day program held at the Budlong Avenue School, Los Angeles, California. Combining history with a popular type of radio entertainment, the program took the form of a radio quiz entitled "Down Through the Years." The questions compiled by the Founders Day chairman, traced the development of the National Congress and the California Congress in interesting style.

"The Baxters Are Coming to Hawaii!" This exciting announcement was a banner headline in the September-October issue of the Hawaii Parent-Teacher. *Station KGU in Hawaii has signed the National Congress program for twenty-six weeks, and by now parent-teacher members are enjoying weekly visits from the lovable members of our P.T.A. family.*

A PRAYER FROM HAWAII

This prayer, in the Hawaiian language, was offered at the opening of the Wednesday evening session of the Board meeting in New Orleans, by Mrs. John W. Devereux, member-at-large, executive committee, Hawaii Congress.

E ka Makua aloha, e noho pu Oe me makou nei i ko makou halawai pu ana i keia mau la, no ka noonoo ana a me ke kuka pu ana.

E haawi mai i ka naauao ma ko makou mau olelo hooholo a i kekahi hoomaopopo oi ae, i hiki ia makou ke hoomakaukau i kahua paa no ka makou hana i keia makahiki ae.

E hoopomaikai mai i na home a me na kula ma keia aina nui. E kokua ia makou ma ko makou iini e hoonui ae i ka pili pono mawaena o na makua, na kumukula a me na keiki o na lahui a pau, a me na hoomana a pau.

Ke noi nei makou i kou pomaikai maluna o ko makou mau hana a manao a pau, ma ka inoa o ko makou Haku, o Iesu Kristo. Amene.

* * *

Translation by the Reverend Henry P. Judd

Dear Father, be with us as we gather together this week for study and discussion. Grant us wisdom in our decisions and a greater understanding, that we may prepare a firm foundation for our work in the coming year. Bless the homes and schools of our great country. Help us in our desire to stimulate a closer relationship between parents, teachers, and children of all races, creeds, and religions.

We ask that Thou bestow Thy blessing on all our actions and thoughts. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

BE SURE OF A PLACE TO STAY!

• The convention of the National Congress on June 2, 3, and 4, 1947, will hold more than the usual significance of such an annual meeting, for it is our Golden Jubilee convention. As such it will draw forth the highest efforts of the National Congress in making it a memorable event in the annals of parent-teacher history.

In addition to the delegates from the various states, our convention on June 2, 3, and 4, 1947, will undoubtedly see in attendance many other P.T.A. members from all the fifty congresses in our vast organization. Indeed, a centrally located convention city was chosen in order that as many as possible might be able to be present.

But we feel it wise to remind all local members that hotel reservations must be obtained far in advance to avoid disappointment at the reply, "No space available." Therefore if you are planning to enjoy our fiftieth anniversary in Chicago, make sure ahead of time that you will have accommodations for the period of the Golden Jubilee convention.

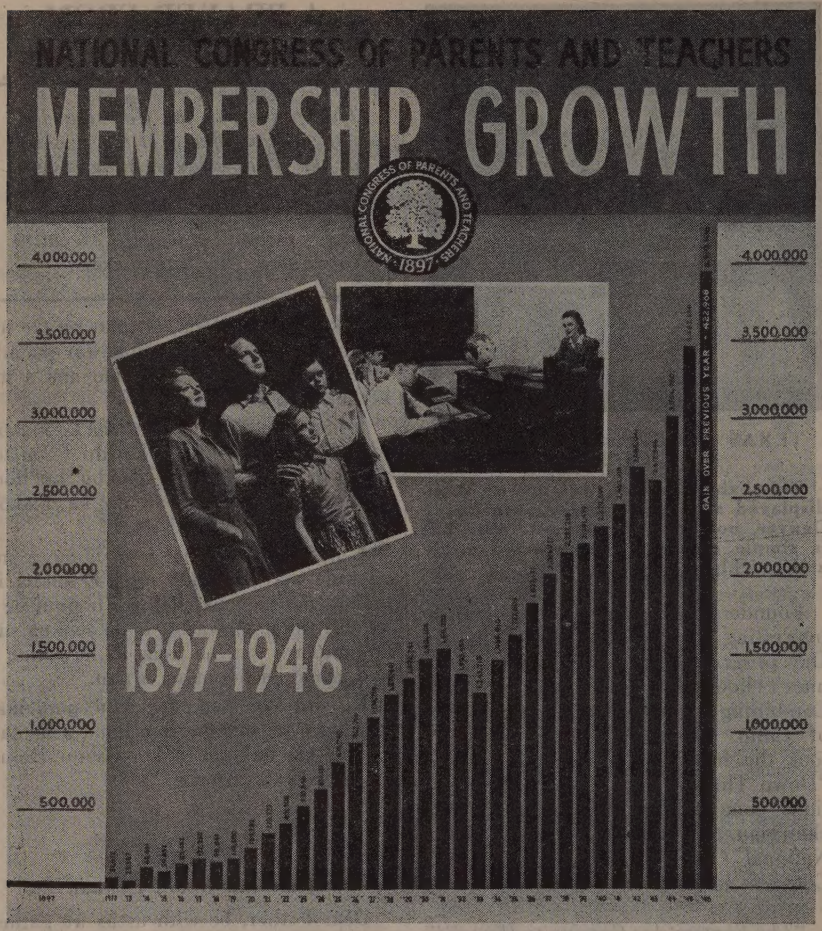
All persons attending the convention should be sure to bring their membership cards with them.

Complete housing information will be published in the January 1947 issue of the *National Congress Bulletin.*

SCHOOL LUNCH SUPPLIES

School children of Turlock, California, will get their supply of healthful foods this year, and delicious items they promise to be, too!

The Washington P.T.A. in Turlock, a unit of 774 members, reports that 757 quarts of apricots, cherries, peaches, pears, tomatoes, jams, jellies, and relish were canned this season for the school lunch project. Under the supervision of the school lunch committee, seventeen members of the association handled the entire processing of these foods.



LET'S MAKE IT 5,000,000 MEMBERS BY APRIL 1947!

DELIGHT—NOT DISASTER!

Our Christmas trees, symbolizing all that is festive in the holiday season, are nevertheless a fire hazard, as all of us concerned with safety know so well.

A leaflet entitled *Fireproofing Christmas Trees explains methods of reducing the hazard of fires but warns that no inexpensive method will make a tree completely fireproof. Therefore all precautions about lighted candles, matches, and other open flames should be rigorously observed.**

Many of us also keep our tree in the house too long after December 25, thus increasing the danger of fire as the branches become dry and brittle.

This year as at every other Christmastime, our safety chairmen should be vigilant in reminding parents and teachers to make Christmas a delight instead of a disaster!

*Leaflet No. 193, *Fireproofing Christmas Trees*, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Price, 5 cents.

SUPPLY EXHAUSTED

The following publications are sold out and will not be reprinted. Please, therefore, do not order any of them from now on:

We, the Citizens
Schools for Democracy
Guiding the Young Child
Parents and the Preschool Child

National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine will continue to supply an abundance of material of this type.

THE BAXTERS in 1947!

• If you are interested in the status of our schools and teachers, you'll want to hear *The Baxters* program on January 4, when "Bill Stumps for Education." The head of the family will have some significant things to say on this important subject.

And if you know a young person in the throes of vocational indecision, the broadcast of January 11 may shed some light on the problem, for on that date "Janey Chooses a Career."

• On January 18 parents will be dramatically reminded that "Health Begins at Home." Then on January 25 "Bud Goes to Lake Success" and learns what the United Nations organization means to boys and girls who will be tomorrow's world citizens.

And here's a preview of the broadcasts for the following month:

February 1. What Books Are Best?
February 8. Where Have Manners Gone?
February 15. Parents Don't Mean Any Harm.
February 22. Peace with Brotherhood.

Watch for more news about these February programs, and don't forget to tune in *The Baxters* each Saturday at 1:30 CST!

WHAT OUR NORTHERN NEIGHBORS SAY ABOUT MEETINGS

In a message to local Home and School Associations, L. A. DeWolfe, provincial president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Home and School, has this to say about the handling of a meeting:

"Some local associations still have little notion of what a Home and School meeting should be. If a whole evening is spent at child's play or with business that should be done outside the regular meeting, the name 'Home and School' should not be used. The educational part of the program determines its value. If your people don't like speeches, try the interview or discussion method. Include as many members as possible in discussion from the floor. Make the best possible use of your time. Don't take an hour to do what should be done in ten minutes."